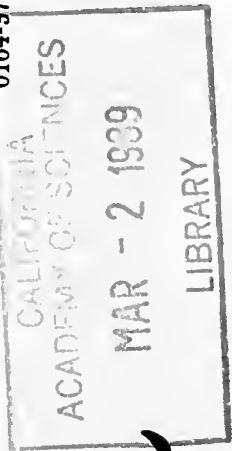


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# THE GULL



Golden Gate Audubon Society

Berkeley, California

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## SERENGETI DIARY SNEAK PREVIEW

The **March 9th** meeting in **San Francisco** will feature a unique program: A sneak preview of an upcoming National Geographic Special, *Serengeti Diary* views Serengeti National Park in Africa through the eyes of a Masai elder, a bush pilot and wildlife biologist. Accompany wildlife photographer Baron Hugo van Lawick on a journey in and around the Serengeti, his home for more than two decades. Through this film he unveils a world rarely seen by the casual observer and captures with his camera a rare glimpse of this paradise. . . The spectacular landscape, the fascinating Masai culture, and the unique wildlife. An amazing array of African animals live in the vast ecosystem—dozens of species from flamingos to wildebeests.

Don't miss this rare opportunity to see an entire National Geographic special a full month before the rest of the nation does (Serengeti Diary will not be aired on national television until April 12th)! A representative from Chevron, who underwrote the special, will present the film and will answer questions about their sponsorship of the National Geographic Specials. The show will begin at 7:30 p.m., Thursday March 9th at the Josephine Randall Museum, 199 Museum Way in San Francisco.

## BIRDATHON '89

### A Word from the President

Your Audubon chapter, the second largest in the country with 6000 members, is pulling out all the stops for this year's Birdathon on April 15-16. Because we believe the Birdathon to be the most efficient and interesting way to raise money for the Audubon Cause, we're putting a lot of effort in to make it a grand success. We've formed teams of expert birders, named the teams to pique your interest, we're awarding prizes, we're stirring up publicity. And now we're asking you to help out.

GGAS is a volunteer organization, and it relies on you, the members, for your time and energy, your talents and skills, your interest and commitment, and frankly, your money to make it all work, Thanks to you volunteers, we are succeeding.

(more)

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GGAS has made a difference in the past, and we hope to continue doing so in the future. We affect the lives and attitudes of a lot of people in the Bay Area. We educate people with our monthly programs, with our on-going field trips, and with our support of birding classes in the community college system. We monitor the environment with our rare-bird alert, our Christmas birdcounts, and our observations column in *The GULL*. We strive mightily to protect the environment through our letters to government officials, our attendance at hearings, and our legal maneuvers. We publish books and checklists; we produce notecards. If we are to continue, we need your financial support.

We can always do more. We have to, given the environmental situation today. If each of you 6000 GGAS members out there pledged 10¢ per species in this birdathon, and if 100 species were identified by your team, GGAS could raise \$60,000, a hefty sum that would offset the threat to Mono Lake and which would insure the continuation of GGAS's various programs. Granted, that's a big if. Nonetheless, I urge you to support our Birdathon. Pledge what you can: 25¢, 50¢, a dollar per bird. Get others to join in. Form your own team and gather pledges. We need your help.

Many thanks.

TOM WHITE

## SUPPORT FROM MARIN

The members of this Audubon chapter have been unstinting in their support of our wetland pleas and fundraising efforts for the costly legal battles to protect them. However, we would like to belatedly acknowledge our friends at the Marin Audubon

Society for their generous donation of \$2000.00 to the Oakland Airport lawsuit. Unfortunately, these battles still rage and our pleas must continue!

## FIELD TRIPS CALENDAR

**Wednesday, March 8**—Mini-trip to Mitchell Canyon. We will meet at 9:30 a.m. Take Hwy. 24 through the Caldecott Tunnel. At Walnut Creek take Ygnacio Valley Rd. Go approximately 8 miles, turn right onto Mitchell Canyon Rd. and proceed to the parking lot at the end of the road. This a delightful area with easy streamside walking and many songbirds. Wear shoes suitable for walking in mud, and bring your lunch. Rain cancels trip. Leader: Anna Wilcox (351-9301) and Jean-Marie Spoelman.

**Saturday/Sunday, March 11/12**—Honey Lake. Call for detailed directions. Trip will be limited to 20 participants. Lodging is available in Susanville; primitive camping is also available. Be sure to bring warm clothing. We should see Sage Grouse, Bald Eagles, and other birds of the Eastern Sierra. Leader: Bob Hirt (408-446-4478).

**Saturday, March 11**—San Francisco Bird Blitz. In past years participants reported over 100 species within the City limits. This year's mad dash to build the biggest "City Day List" possible will begin at 7 a.m. sharp at the foot of Van Ness Ave. From there we will caravan to other sites including Golden Gate Park, Sutro Baths, Lake Merced and Candlestick Point. Bring lunch and liquids. We will bird until dusk when we will adjourn to a nearby restaurant where, for a minimal cost, we can avoid going home to cook dinner. Leader: Alan Hopkins (664-0983).

**Saturday, March 11**—Richardson Bay Wildlife Sanctuary Refuge. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Audubon Center at the Sanctuary, 376 Greenwood Beach Rd. in Tiburon. From Hwy 101 take the Belvedere-Tiburon exit, go east and turn right at the third traffic light: Greenwood Cove Rd. There should be several thousand birds on the water. We may be able to see courting Western Grebes. Bring lunch and a scope if you have one. We will look for waterbirds from about 9:30 to 11; following our walk we will have a slide show on waterbirds; after lunch, we will look for land birds from about 1:00 to 2:30; the Lyford House will open for touring after our walk. Leader: Meryl Sundove (388-2524).

**Sunday, March 12**—Tennessee Cove. This will be a two mile walk to Tennessee Cove, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, to look for land and shorebirds, including White-throated Swifts. From San Francisco take Hwy. 101 north and exit on Hwy. 1 toward Mill Valley and Stinson Beach. In about one-quarter mile turn left onto Tennessee Valley Rd. Meet at the end of the road at 9:00 a.m. Bring lunch. Leader: Betty Short (921-3020 work).

**Sunday, March 19**—Sunol Regional Park. Meet at 8:30 a.m. inside the park entrance at parking lot on left. Take I-680 south, turn off at the Calaveras Rd. (the freeway sign is marked Calaveras Rd., Dumbarton Bridge, Calif. 84), go south (left) and follow the signs to Sunol Park, about five miles. Bring lunch and liquids. Park regulations prohibit alcoholic beverages. We should see Golden Eagles, a variety of winter residents and early spring migrants. This trip is also good for wildflowers. Leader: Peter Allen (892-8063). \$

**Sunday, March 26**—Golden Gate Park, San Francisco. We will meet at

9:30 a.m. for the traditional Easter walk around the Chain of Lakes and the other lakes in the vicinity. There is a variety of waterfowl to be seen and at least two species of hummingbirds. After the walk we will have a champagne brunch at nearby Thigg's restaurant in Lincoln Park (\$10). Meet at 43rd Ave. and Fulton St. near North Lake (Chain of Lakes). Leader: Betty Short (921-3020, work phone).

**Saturday, April 1**—Bodega Bay for spring migrants. Meet at 9 a.m. at the intersection of Hwy. 1 and East Shore Rd. (½ mile north of Diekmann's Bay Store). We will bird Bodega harbor, Bodega head and possibly Salmon Creek. Bring a bag lunch and liquids.

If you come up Friday, lodging is available at the Best Western Motel (707-875-3525) and The Inn at the Tides (800-541-7788). There are nice campsites at the Dunes State Park just north of our meeting place. Plan to get there early to be sure of getting a spot or call Ticketron to reserve one. Leader: Nancy Conzett (707-875-2231, Bodega Bay).

**Sunday, April 2**—Beginners' Trip to Tilden Regional Park. Meet at 9 a.m. (Daylight Savings Time) at the Nature Center parking lot. From I-80 take University Ave. until it ends at Oxford and turn left. Take Oxford to Rose and turn right. Proceed one block and turn left at Spruce. Cross Grizzly Peak and immediately turn left downhill on Canon Dr., at the bottom of the hill.

This field trip will concentrate on identifying birds of the chaparral, woodland and grassland areas of Tilden Park, Berkeley. We will see a variety of resident and breeding species and will listen for their sounds as an aid to identification. Bring binoculars and a field guide. Rain or serious threat of rain cancels trip. Leader: Robin Pulich (848-3594 evenings).

**Saturday, April 8**—Beginners' trip to Bothe-Napa State Park. This is a particularly beautiful park in the spring, with migrating warblers and vireos, Winter Wrens, wildflowers and if we are lucky, Pileated Woodpeckers. We will walk about four to five miles and will bird mostly by ear. This trip is especially good for beginners. From the East Bay take I-80 north, turn off to Napa, following Hwy. 29 to St. Helena. The entrance to the park is on your left just past the Ole Bale Mill north of St. Helena. From the West Bay, take Hwy. 101 north to Hwy. 37 near Novato, go east to the junction with Hwy. 121 (turn left at the junction) and follow 121 north and east to Napa where it joins Hwy. 29. Continue northwest to the park. Meet in the parking lot at 8:00 a.m. Bring lunch and liquids. Rain cancels trip. Please carpool if possible. Leader: Gene Hull (525-6893). \$

**Wednesday, April 12**—Mini-trip to Sunol Regional Park. Meet at 9 a.m. at the ranger station parking lot in the park. Take Hwy. 580 east, watch for the turn-off to Hwy. 680 near Dublin. Take Hwy. 680 south, turn off at Calaveras Rd., go left, follow the signs to Sunol Park. We may see Lark Sparrows, Golden Eagles, Northern Orioles and resident birds of the area. Bring lunch. Rain cancels trip. Leaders: Jean-Marie Spoelman and Anna Wilcox (351-9301). \$

Trips marked with \$ go to parks or other sites that require an entrance fee.

Carpooling arrangements will be attempted for trips marked (✓).

Problems: If for any reason you have difficulty getting in touch with a field trip leader, or need information regarding a trip, or can take a passenger on a trip, call Russ Wilson (524-2399).

—FIELD TRIPS COMMITTEE

## OBSERVATIONS

### December 28 through January 31

January's chilly weather without much rain put fears of continued drought in everyone's mind. But it did provide good weather for a Big Duck Day team which found thirty-three species of swans, geese, and ducks from San Mateo to Marin Cos. coastally and inland to San Joaquin Co. on January 27 (DCR, DWm, HG, PDG, BA). Also, several exciting landbirds found last month stayed around to confound and delight observers.

### Waterbirds

Moderate numbers of Northern Fulmars were reported during the month. A high of fifty, both light and dark phase, were found out of Half Moon Bay Jan. 7 (ToJ). The last sightings of Pink-footed Shearwater were in late December: three out of Monterey Bay Dec. 29 on that Christmas Bird Count (CBC) (SFB). That CBC also included thirty Sooty, and eighty-two Short-tailed Shearwaters (SFB). Another four to five Short-tailed Shearwaters were found out of Half Moon Bay Jan. 7 (ToJ), and there were a few scattered in a Sooty Shearwater flock in the same area Jan. 28 (DWm). (With the absence of pelagic trips run by Shearwater Journeys the few reports of pelagic birds we receive are from whale-watching or land-based observers.)

A **Least Bittern** found its way to Lake Merced Jan. 28 (DPM). The only Cattle Egret noted was the continuing bird at Lake Merritt through the period (ToC, JMR, MRo). Twenty Snow Geese were at Elkhorn Slough for that CBC Jan. 2 (*fide* DR). A Ross' Goose was discovered at Sharp Park Golf Course, Pacifica Jan. 4 (JS). A "Common" Greenwinged Teal was spotted at Palo Alto Baylands Jan.

24 (MLR). The pair of Tufted Ducks, at Old Sutro Baths in San Francisco through the period, continued to provide many observers with close views of these rarities. Another Tufted Duck was found at Mallard Reservoir Dec. 31 on the Contra Costa Co. CBC in an area not open to the public (RJR). The **King Eider** at Moss Landing remained through Jan. 9 (JM, CW). The male Harlequin Duck in Bolinas Lagoon stayed through the month. Four Harlequins were found in Spanish Bay, Monterey Co. Dec. 28 (BBrr). Another was at Ano Nuevo State Reserve Dec. 31 (*fide* RSTh). Eight Oldsquaws turned up in the following locations: one at Moss Landing harbor Dec. 31–Jan. 7 (DSg, DWo, THK); one at Princeton Harbor Jan. 1–27 (mob), and two there Jan. 8–15 (MiW, AME); one at Bodega Bay Jan. 1–2 (*fide* BDP, MLR); one at Benicia Recreation Area Jan. 9–26 (TB, MBG); and up to three near the Fort Baker Marina Jan. 10–17 (DAH, HT).

Two Northern Goshawks were found on CBCs locally: one at Ring Mountain, Marin Co. Dec. 31 (*fide* DSi), and another at Mt. Diablo State Park Dec. 31 (RJR), which continued to be seen through Jan. 24 (JM, BC, KGH). A Broad-winged Hawk remained in San Francisco Dec. 27–Jan. 28 (JCI, DEQ, JM).

The Rock Sandpiper at the Princeton Harbor jetty stayed at least through Jan. 14 (CS, MFe, JHu), and another was feeding at Pebble Beach just north of Bean Hollow State Beach Jan. 13–24 (TC, RJR, EDi, JMR). An adult Little Gull was at Stockton Sewage Ponds Jan. 24 (AME). Several first winter Glaucous Gulls were found locally: one at Bodega Bay Jan. 3 (MLR, ASH), one in the Carmel beach area Jan. 9–11 (*fide* RER and DR), and probably two birds at the Sunnyvale Sewage ponds Jan. 16–28 (PJM, DEQ, PhR, DWo). Black-legged Kittiwake sightings

increased through January. The largest number reported was forty to fifty out of Princeton on a Whale trip Jan. 28 (DWm). The Elegant Tern at Princeton Harbor was last seen Dec. 30 (MFe).

### Landbirds

A Short-eared Owl was seen in east Sonoma Co. off Ramal Road Dec. 29 (BDP). Two others were found on CBCs: one in Tennessee Valley Dec. 31 (*fide* DSi), and one at Bodega Bay Jan. 2 (RS, *fide* BDP). Two Vaux's Swifts graced the Hayward Regional Shoreline Park Jan. 6 (RJR). A Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was found along Gates Canyon Road in Solano Co. Jan. 16 (MBG), and a Red-naped Sapsucker was seen near Pine Gulch Creek Jan. 15 (DEQ). A **Hammond's Flycatcher** was identified in Redwood Canyon Jan. 11 (JM, RJR, HG). The bird had been noted in mid-December but not identified as to species. It is in the same location as one found last year on the Oakland CBC. This year's bird remained at least through Jan. 17 (AWi, MaM).

A Brown Thrasher was discovered in the town of Bodega on the West Sonoma CBC Jan. 2 (*fide* BDP) and seen again Jan. 3 (MLR, DSg). The Bendire's Thrasher was still to be found at the Jahant Road residence in Lodi through Jan. 24 (WT, AME). The immature **Wagtail** at Moonglow Dairy, undisturbed by the flap over its identity, continued to be seen at least through Jan. 21 (mob). By Jan. 6 it was being called a **White Wagtail**, with final name-calling awaiting the California Bird Records Committee determination. A Northern Shrike was at the Lost Banos Wildlife Management Area Jan. 21–28 (BD, TAC).

A Solitary Vireo was found along Dearbord Road in San Mateo Co. Dec. 31 (PJM). Unusual winter observations of western warblers in our area included two Orange-crowned—Pescadero and

Golden Gate Park, one Nashville—Pescadero, two Hermit Warblers—West Sonoma CBC and San Francisco, and two Wilson's Warblers—Golden Gate Park and Dillon Beach (mob). A Tennessee Warbler continued to be seen in Golden Gate Park through Jan. 8 (JCI). Eight Palm Warblers were found on local CBCs. One at Pescadero continued through the period (mob), and one near Bodega Bay was seen at least through Jan. 15 (DEQ). Four Black-and-white Warblers were counted on CBCs from Southern Marin to Moss Landing. The American Redstart in Golden Gate Park was last reported Dec. 29 (JC), and an adult male American Redstart in Pescadero remained through Jan. 24 (mob). A **Worm-eating Warbler** skulked along Pescadero Creek in the town of Pescadero Jan. 2–16 (JC, mob). Is this the same warbler which was at Half Moon Bay, thirteen miles to the north in early December, or are Worm-eating Warblers just lurking along San Mateo's creeks waiting to be discovered?

An adult male Summer Tanager and a female Western Tanager, found along Corralitos Creek near Watsonville Jan. 2 (*fide* DR, CBC), were refound Jan. 28 (JMS). Two Black-headed Grosbeaks, very unusual in winter, were discovered in San Mateo: one in Menlo Park Jan. 24–28 (PJM, *fide* RSTh), and the other at a feeder at Ano Nuevo State Park Dec. 28 (GJS, *fide* RSTh).

One Sharp-tailed Sparrow was at Pescadero marsh Dec. 31–Jan. 28 (GH, BS *fide* RSTh). The Harris' Sparrow at the foot of Cargo Way in San Francisco remained thorough the period (mob). Five Lapland Longspurs were last noted at the Spaletta Plateau Dec. 27 (JEP).

A Rusty Blackbird was discovered at the Moonglow Dairy Jan. 23 (KH, PP, JM), hanging out in the White Wagtail area. The adult male Orchard Oriole in Pacific Grove was still being seen Jan. 28 (DR, mob, SEF). Another adult

male Orchard Oriole was at a residence in the Sunset District of San Francisco Jan. 21–29 (BB, JM, MLR). A Hooded Oriole found its way to a residential area in Alamo Dec. 31–Jan. 1 (RJR, JMR). Unusual in winter are Northern Orioles in our area. Two were found this month: one on Bay Flat Road near Bodega Bay Jan. 2–3 (RS, *fide* BDP, MLR), and an immature male in the town of Pescadero Jan. 12 (MRO).

**Observers:** Beverly Anderson, Stephen F. Bailey, Bruce Barrett (BBrr), Tony Batiste, Betty Berg, Ken Burton, Theodore A. Chandik, Bill Chilson, Tim Chrisler, Josiah Clark (JCI), Jack Cole, Tom Condit (ToC), Elizabeth Dickey (EDi), Bob Dyer, Al M. Eisner, Marc Fenner (MFe), Shawneen E. Finnegan, Helen Green, Paul D. Green, Marguerite B. Gross, Keith Hansen, Rob Hayden, Kevin G. Hintsa, Bob Hogan, David A. Holway, Alan S. Hopkins, Joel Hurd (JHu), Tom Johnson (ToJ), Theodore H. Koundakjian, Andy Kratter, Earl Lebow, Donna Lion, John McCormick, Robert Merrill, Peter J. Metropulos, Mike Mamoser, Joseph Morlan, Scott Morrical, Marty Morrow (MaM), Daniel P. Murphy, Mary Nordstrom, Benjamin D. Parmeter, John E. Parmeter, Peter Pyle, David E. Quady, David C. Rice, Jean M. Richmond, Robert J. Richmond, Don Roberson, Robin E. Roberson, Mike Rogers (MRO), Mary Louise Rosegay, Phil Rostron (PhR), Barry Saupe, Dianne Sierra (DSi), Dan Singer (DSg), Mark Solomon, Judy Spitler, Jean Marie Spoelman, Chris Spooner, Rich Stallcup, Gary S. Strachan, Ron S. Thorn (RSTh), Walter Tordoff, Henry Turkel, Mike Wihler (MiW), Anna Wilcox (AWi), David Wimpfheimer (DWm), Claire Wolfe, Dennis Wolff.

Please report observations to Northern California Rare Bird Alert: 528-0288 or 524-5592.

—HELEN GREEN

Observations Editor

2001 Yolo Ave., Berkeley, CA 94707

## CONSERVATION NOTES

### 'A Race to the Chainsaws'

A Humboldt County Superior Court Judge late December granted an injunction halting a Pacific Lumber Co. harvest plan in a sensitive old-growth stand just southeast of Eureka, saying that California Department of Forestry procedures lead to "a race to the chainsaws."

"It is no way to conduct the public's business nor is it a way to insure economic stability or certainty to the owner/operator and the business of timber production," Ferroggiaro said in an addendum to his order for a preliminary injunction barring Pacific Lumber from putting the Salmon Creek harvest plan into effect.

He also stated that it was "sheer sophistry" to expect reasonable impact studies to be made on proposed timber harvest plans in the time allowed the state to process the applications, which is as little as 25 days.

The judge said that the CDF did not follow the requirements of law in approving the Salmon Creek harvest plan by simply declaring, without "reasoned analysis" or discussion, that mitigation of the plan to protect wildlife habitat as requested by Fish & Game was not feasible.

CDF has acknowledged that it was obligated by law to incorporate feasible alternatives to reduce significant adverse impacts, the judge said. In the case of the Salmon Creek THP, however, CDF summarily rejected alternatives proposed by Fish & Game, thereby denying the state agency its lawful right to "participation in the process." State law prohibits any state agency from approving projects which allow wildlife to drop below self-perpetuating levels. The Department of Fish and Game is mandated to "maintain sufficient populations of all species of wildlife and the habitat necessary to insure their continued existence at the

optimum level possible" (Section 7755 of the Fish and Game Code).

The failure of CDF to address the cumulative impacts of logging on wildlife in the Salmon Creek area constituted a "prejudicial abuse of discretion," the judge's decision said.

Ferroggiaro granted the injunction after considering a lawsuit filed by the Sierra Club and the Environmental Protection Information Center of Garberville seeking to halt the old-growth harvest plan on the basis of a threat to old-growth dependent species in the Salmon Creek watershed.

The suit is one of five in a series of legal challenges to stepped up logging of Pacific Lumber's remaining old-growth holdings since a corporate takeover by MAXXAM Corp. in 1985. Four of the cases have preliminary injunctions against logging and await trial or decision. The first case filed, EPIC vs. Maxxam was decided against Pacific Lumber/Maxxam in early 1988. In that case the judge found that CDF has prejudicially abused its discretion in approving the plans, had not proceeded in the manner required by law, had not considered cumulative impacts, had discouraged participation by Fish and Game and Water Quality, and had "rubber stamped" the plans.

"Of the original 2 million acres of ancient redwood forest that covered this state, about 5% remains," said Gail Lucas, speaking for the Sierra Club.

"Pacific Lumber Co. is the largest private owner of old-growth timber in California, with some 16,000 uncut acres remaining, about half of it virgin redwood. Its holdings in the Salmon Creek watershed include about 3,000 acres of old growth timber", said Lucas.

"If Pacific Lumber is unwilling to leave the trees Fish and Game says are necessary for the preservation of old-growth dependent species, we ask that Pacific Lumber/Maxxam become a willing seller and sell some of the re-

maining ancient forest to the state. There are legislators who are ready to introduce a bond act to be placed on the November 1990 ballot. In the same act we would want funds allocated to put workers who would have logged that ancient forest to work returning already logged land back to its former productivity.”

“We are asking individuals to contact Charles Hurwitz, owner of Maxx-

am and Pacific Lumber, to urge that he come a willing seller of the 3,000 acres at Salmon Creek. His address is: Charles Hurwitz, Federated Development Company, 5718 Westheimer Suite 2200, Houston, Texas 77058. Copies of the letter should be sent to state legislators.”

For more information write Gail Lucas, 30001 Navarro Ridge Road, Albion, Ca., 95410.

1988 CHRISTMAS COUNT REPORT

SAN FRANCISCO

The San Francisco CBC, held on a rainy December 21, netted a surprising 61,726 birds, 8,721 more than last year. Our species count was down to 161, from 169, and only 58 birders participated in the field. 11 feeders were watched as well, a new count high.

As usual we had a slew of rarities including 2 Tufted Ducks, a Broad-winged Hawk, enough warblers for a good fall day at Pt. Reyes, a Swamp Sparrow and a Harris Sparrow. We were rained on, hailed on, stopped by the police while owling, but as usual we had a great time.

Next year’s SF count will be held during the week after Christmas. Enjoy the spirit of Christmas, plan to join us.

—DAN MURPHY

OAKLAND

The 1988 Oakland Christmas Bird Count took place December 18. The day was partly cloudy and the temperature moderate. We had 159 field participants (11 more than last year) and 12 feeder watchers. We saw 164 different species and 110,061 individual birds. There were no rare birds found, nine fewer species were seen, and 5,000 fewer birds than last year. A number of participants remarked that there were very few Robins in their areas. Both boat crews reported that they saw fewer sea ducks than in recent years. Comments are invited from anyone who has thoughts about why there seem to be fewer birds this year.

—DAVID RICE

SPECIES	S.F.	OAK.	SPECIES	S.F.	OAK.
Red-throated Loon	66	71	cormorant species	1800	—
Pacific Loon	13	—	American Bittern	1	—
Common Loon	17	59	Great Blue Heron	17	63
loon species	10	3	Great Egret	16	69
Pied-billed Grebe	118	116	Snowy Egret	12	90
Horned Grebe	22	161	Cattle Egret	—	1
Red-necked Grebe	—	1	Green-backed Heron	17	2
Eared Grebe	20	36	Black-crowned Night-Heron	68	58
Western Grebe	848	553	Snow Goose	—	11
Clark’s Grebe	12	47	Canada Goose	71	1144
W-Clark’s Grebe	—	302	Wod Duck	—	5
Aechmorphous species	140	—	Green-winged Teal	4	158
American White Pelican	—	21	Mallard	851	1150
Brown Pelican	77	—	Northern Pintail	23	636
Double-crested Cormorant	3299	1163	Blue-winged Teal	—	2
Brandt’s Cormorant	205	33	Cinnamon Teal	3	22
Pelagic Cormorant	20	8	Northern Shoveler	3	194



SPECIES	S.F.	OAK.	SPECIES	S.F.	OAK.
Gadwall	5	104	Surfbird	15	—
<b>Eurasian Wigeon</b>	—	5	Red Knot	2	65
American Wigeon	371	1210	Sanderling	463	973
Canvasback	162	415	Western Sandpiper	482	9657
Redhead	—	78	Least Sandpiper	2258	1364
Ring-necked Duck	58	290	Dunlin	945	8911
<b>Tufted Duck</b>	2	—	peep species	—	4485
Greater Scaup	69	2114	Short-billed Dowitcher	1	51
Lesser Scaup	44	1575	Long-billed Dowitcher	—	73
scaup species	470	12599	dowitcher species	201	1544
Black Scoter	53	—	Common Snipe	8	63
Surf Scoter	<b>10747</b>	8937	Bonaparte's Gull	11	103
White-winged Scoter	213	64	Heerman's Gull	2	—
scoter species	660	225	Mew Gull	4705	1316
Common Goldeneye	41	1024	Ring-billed Gull	462	3250
Barrows' Goldeneye	—	64	California Gull	583	463
Bufflehead	157	1181	Herring Gull	170	24
Hooded Merganser	—	4	Thayer's Gull	15	6
Red-breasted Merganser	10	46	Western Gull	2740	1095
Ruddy Duck	728	2568	Glaucous-winged Gull	1375	186
duck species	—	5	W. xGlaucous-winged Gull	37	8
Turkey Vulture	4	104	gull species	4634	1129
Black-shouldered Kite	2	30	Forster's Tern	32	267
Northern Harrier	6	32	Rock Dove	2239	889
Sharp-shinned Hawk	11	20	Band-tailed Pigeon	72	53
Cooper's Hawk	11	9	Mourning Dove	1162	1179
Accipiter species	1	7	Common Barn Owl	—	2
Red-shouldered Hawk	8	5	Western Screech-Owl	1	3
<b>Broad-winged Hawk</b>	1	—	Great Horned Owl	1	26
Red-tailed Hawk	76	130	Burrowing Owl	—	7
<b>Rough-legged Hawk</b>	—	1	Northern Saw-whet Owl	—	2
Golden Eagle	—	3	White-throated Swift	2	—
Bald Eagle	1	—	Anna's Hummingbird	251	508
Bald Eagle (immature)	1	—	Belted Kingfisher	7	24
American Kestrel	32	49	Acorn Woodpecker	—	7
<b>Merlin</b>	3	3	Red-breasted Sapsucker	—	18
Peregrine Falcon	5	2	Nuttall's Woodpecker	—	49
Ring-necked Pheasant	—	1	Downy Woodpecker	24	24
California Quail	46	181	Hairy Woodpecker	1	2
Clapper Rail	—	11	Northern (Red-shafted) Flicker	130	517
Virginia Rail	6	—	Black Phoebe	47	74
American Coot	1293	2172	Say's Phoebe	8	10
Black-bellied Plover	606	2001	Tree Swallow	2	—
Snowy Plover	26	9	Violet-green Swallow	1	—
Semipalmated Plover	—	90	Steller's Jay	5	364
Killdeer	118	208	Scrub Jay	114	539
Black Oystercatcher	1	—	American Crow	31	79
Black-necked Stilt	—	39	Common Raven	31	8
American Avocet	390	1086	Chestnut-backed Chickadee	226	784
Greater Yellowlegs	3	11	Plain Titmouse	—	71
Willet	593	1091	Bushtit	223	1489
Wandering Tattler	1	—	Red-breasted Nuthatch	1	146
Spotted Sandpiper	9	19	White-breasted Nuthatch	—	8
Whimbrel	11	27	<b>Pygmy Nuthatch</b>	227	3
Long-billed Curlew	27	228	Brown Creeper	32	71
Marbled Godwit	361	795	Rock Wren	—	6
Ruddy Turnstone	19	16	Bewick's Wren	12	109
Black Turnstone	42	36	House Wren	1	—

SPECIES	S.F.	OAK.
Winter Wren	21	15
Marsh Wren	21	4
Golden-crowned Kinglet	155	111
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	200	712
Western Bluebird	—	131
Hermit Thrush	70	141
American Robin	434	1645
Varied Thrush	4	134
Wrentit	63	279
Northern Mockingbird	11	56
California Thrasher	9	32
Water Pipit	20	190
Cedar Waxwing	113	434
Loggerhead Shrike	6	11
European Starling	2003	3262
Hutton's Vireo	30	60
Orange-crowned Warbler	12	4
Nashville Warbler	2	—
Yellow Warbler	2	—
Yellow-rumped Warbler	605	1135
Yellow-rumped (M) Warbler	40	36
Yellow-rumped (A) Warbler	349	483
Townsend's Warbler	162	102
Palm Warbler	1	—
Black-and-white Warbler	1	—
American Restart	1	—
Common Yellowthroat	22	9
Wilson's Warbler	1	—
Rufous-sided Towhee	21	258
Brown Towhee	119	736
Rufous-crowned Sparrow	—	16
Savannah Sparrow	19	32
Fox Sparrow	168	227
Song Sparrow	169	402
Lincoln's Sparrow	6	10
Swamp Sparrow	1	—
White-throated Sparrow	4	2
Golden-crowned Sparrow	455	1139
White-crowned Sparrow	879	1400
Harris' Sparrow	1	—
Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco	399	1440
Dark-eyed (Gray) Junco	1	1
Red-winged Blackbird	113	1868
Tri-colored Blackbird	145	60
Western Meadowlark	349	382
Brewer's Blackbird	2792	1301
Great-tailed Grackle	2	—
Brown-headed Cowbird	167	52
blackbird species	322	156
Purple Finch	24	82
House Finch	1412	1518
Red Crossbill	4	—
Pine Siskin	76	64
Lesser Goldfinch	18	198
American Goldfinch	38	228
House Sparrow	430	284

## BACK YARD BIRDER

I recently had the privilege of visiting Cypress Grove Preserve, one of three properties which are part of Audubon Canyon Ranch. It is a gorgeous spot located on Tomales Bay. John Kelly, the enthusiastic resident biologist, gave us the background of the site plus the plans for the future. It is hoped that the land can be restored to something close to its original state, ie., get rid of non-native plants and re-plant native grasses, restore the freshwater pond, and thereby attract varieties of birds and animals. The hardest part will be to arrest development of the marsh when it has reached its maximum potential as habitat. (The February issue of *The GULL* just arrived—see page 26).

Cypress Grove is a birder's paradise, attracting shore birds, salt water bay birds, marsh inhabitants, as well as land birds. On our short visit we saw 49 species without trying very hard. Some of the highlights were 3 Common Yellow throats, each showing itself perfectly; both races of Yellow-rumped Warbler (Audubon's and Myrtle); several Black-crowned Night Herons, posing in trees as well as on the wing; a Common Loon close to shore, periscoping with its head underwater and delighting me with a "laugh;" The Ruddy and the Black Turnstones, actually turning stones while side by side, a nice comparison; a Belted Kingfisher returning to his favorite perch time and again; a Northern Harrier cruising the grasslands.

Having studied the Marsh Wren at length, John gave us some neat facts about this feisty little bird. In order to successfully attract a mate, the male bird builds several nests, allowing his bride to select just the right one. She then prepares the nursery by lining the nest with soft cattail fuzz. Marsh Wrens and Red-winged Blackbirds prefer the same habitat, but it was found that they will not nest in the same territory. The

blackbirds have learned to steer clear of the small wrens, who get rid of the competition by piercing blackbird eggs or removing baby blackbirds from their nests. Talk about a small bird complex! Oddly, this same rivalry does not extend to Tri-colored Blackbirds. These blackbirds seem to require much less nesting territory and so are much less

aggressive. They don't seem to incur the Marsh Wren's wrath.

Having visited the Bolinas Lagoon and now Cypress Grove, I look forward to discovering the Bouverie Preserve in Sonoma County. Future generations of nature lovers are very fortunate to have three such distinctive properties preserved by Audubon Canyon Ranch.

—MEG PAULETICH

## BIRDATHON '89

### What Is it?

A birdathon is a fundraiser, whereby 500 Audubon chapters nationwide raise money for specific environmental causes and for the chapter itself.

A birdathon is fun because it involves a large number of people, those who do the birding and those who pledge their support.

A birdathon is educational. It makes more people, your family and friends, your co-workers and neighbors, more aware of bird life and, therefore, the environment, and our need to protect it.

### Who Does It?

GGAS has formed competitive teams made up of famous hot-shot birders from the chapter. Each team has its own focus, flavor, and expertise. You know them. Their renown has spread far and wide. Now all you need do is pledge your support. Such teams as the all-women **Not So Oldsquaws** or the senior-citizen **Gray Jays** or the legal-bureaucrat **Red-eyed Vireos** or the musically inclined **Nashville Warblers** are competing. One group will spot the largest number of bird species and emerge the winner.

You, too, can bird in the birdathon. Recruit a team from your office or school or church and compete with the experts. All that is required to enter is a minimum \$1 per species spotted by your group.

### How To Do It?

It's easy. Check off on the pledge form (over leaf) the team you wish to

sponsor, indicating how much money you wish to donate per bird species. E.g., pledging 25¢ per species will raise \$25 if 100 birds are spotted by your team. For your own team, gather pledges from friends and acquaintances far and wide. We have additional pledge forms at the office for them (or just photocopy this one).

During one 24-hour period on the weekend of April 15–16, your team will be birding its heart out. At the end of the day, a list of species spotted will be compiled, which you will receive. According to the amount pledged per species, make out a check to Golden Gate Audubon Society for the total. If you've formed your own team, ask your sponsors as soon as possible for their donations.

### Where Does The Money Go?

Last year we raised a mere \$1500 without really trying. This year, setting our sights higher, about ten times higher, we hope to raise \$15,000. Half the money will go to support the National Audubon Society Mono Lake Legal Fund. GGAS is firmly committed to preventing the demise of this unique lake and ecosystem (see page 43). The other half of the money will help fund GGAS's various educational and conservation programs, particularly our crusade to protect the wetlands of the Bay Area.

### Who Wins?

The winning team and chapter has the chance to vie for prizes awarded by National Audubon. Such exciting prizes as

Zeiss binoculars, a trip from Victor Emanuel Tours, and Audubon Ecology Camp scholarships may be yours. Not only that, but GGAS will award to the winning team members an all-expense paid pelagic trip. In addition, those who pledge to support the winning team will receive a map of the areas birded and

with the locations where various birds were spotted.

Finally, you are all invited to our open-house party, to celebrate the opening of our new office, on April 30, when the results of Birdathon '89 will be made known.

## GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON NATIONAL AUDUBON BIRD-A-THON *PLEDGE FORM*

YES, I want to help Golden Gate Audubon and Mono Lake!

\_\_\_\_\_ I pledge to sponsor one (or more) of the  
following teams at the rate of \$\_\_\_\_\_  
per species.

\_\_\_\_\_ 'Not So Oldsquaws'

\_\_\_\_\_ 'California Thrashers'

\_\_\_\_\_ 'Red-eyed Vireos'

\_\_\_\_\_ 'Nashville Warblers'

\_\_\_\_\_ 'Gray Jays'

\_\_\_\_\_ 'Murphy's Mob'

\_\_\_\_\_ 'Purple Martins'

\_\_\_\_\_ 'Cheep T'rills'

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to lead my OWN team and gather pledges  
totalling at least \$1.00 per species

**REMEMBER**—Pledges of \$0.50 per species receive the winning teams' itinerary and map (hand-drawn and lettered by Janet Wessel).

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(mail to GGAS office)

## TEAMS IN COMPETITION

The **Not So-Oldsquaws** are a team of ace birders selected from among the top women birders of the Western States. They have chosen ornithologist Margaret M. Nice as their symbol. "She's dead. Otherwise we'd have her on our team," explained team member Helen Green. "We will see more birds than the other teams, and the birds we do see will be better birds," said team member Lina Prairie.

Estate planner and probate lawyer Steve Margolin, leader of the **Purple Martins** team from the San Francisco-based law firm of Pettit & Martin, demurred. "You tell Ms. Prairie from the Purple Martins 'We will bury you!' Trust me." Mr. Margolin said the Purple Martins will "wake at dawn on April 15, skulk around in the tules, and engage in extensive avian discovery."

The leader of the **Gray Jays**, the GGAS Birdathon '89 team of mature birders, termed the rivalry between the Not-So-Oldsquaws and the Purple Martins "childish." "The Gray Jays were not born yesterday. We know, from years of experience, where to find the birds."

The **Nashville Warblers** is a team of musicians led by David Rice and Debbie Cotter. They have their birding skills fine-tuned. "We provide the sound alternative. Our team is the best-staffed and we know we are going to have a record day," said Mr. Rice.

Renowned birder and wine enthusiast George Peyton will join the **Red-eyed Vireos** but whether the Vireos will count species or vintages has not yet been determined. The Vireos are a team of present and former county employees, including Leslie Lethridge, Chris Carpenter and Paul Green. "We are counting on seeing all the birds before the other teams even wake up," promised Ms. Lethridge.

What of San Francisco? The **Califor-**

**nia Thrashers**, led by Alan Hopkins, will scour the hills and cow hollows. "We're already ahead two species," pointed out the team, "because no one else gets Tufted Duck or Harris' sparrow unless they trespass on *our* turf."

Also in San Francisco, **Murphy's Mob**, will demonstrate what those initials really mean when it comes to observing.

For our Birdathon '89 teams, winning is everything. Not-So-Oldsquaw Lina Prairie summed it up this way: "You tell all those other teams that from now on, **it's no more Mrs. Nice!**"

## MONO LAKE UPDATE

The Los Angeles Department of Water & Power (DWP) has lost a round! A court has invalidated its water licenses in the Mono Lake Basin. The ruling from the Third District Court of Appeals, handed down in late January, says, essentially, that Los Angeles has been taking water that it never had a right to take in the first place, and in-stream flows for healthy fisheries should have been allowed all these years. This decision will affect flows from all four of the major streams coming into Mono Lake, not just Rush and Lee Vining Creeks.

**Mono Lake is in immediate jeopardy, however, because the lake level has dropped to 6375 ft.** This is a level at which, according to the CORY Report, the ecosystem begins to unravel. Land bridges form to the gull colony; dust storms take their toll on trees, humans, and all other life forms in the basin; brine shrimp habitat shrinks.

Two major legal actions are imminent: (1) DWP can be expected to appeal the above decision, and (2) because of concern over the dropping lake level right now immediate action may be needed to stabilize the Lake. The situation is tight. We have come so far, and have won a tremendous decision from

the Courts, but are we going to win before Mono Lake is destroyed? Again, your help is critical if we are to hold out against DWP as they try to defeat us by delay and appeal.

## THANKS FOR THE BIG EFFORT

There have been so many people to thank for their support and donations of one sort or another to our Wetlands Benefit Drawing that we have probably erred from month to month in acknowledging these generous folks. NOW is the time!

Outstanding among our avid fundraisers is Mildred Bennett who has worked countless weekends pitching the Wetland message to REI shoppers. She has also organized the successful showings of the 'wetland quilt' at REI, Coyote Point Museum, S.F. Bay National Wildlife Refuge and its current home, the Lindsay Museum in Walnut Creek. Millie is tireless in her efforts, but could use more help in these weekend outings. In the past she has been assisted by stalwarts, Ann Kadyk, Kathy Ritter and Helen Green. Please volunteer at 843-2222 so we can add your name to this list.

Worthy of thanks are members, like Anna-Marie Bratton, who have solicited friends and co-workers on behalf of wetlands and made significant contributions. And Barbara Papini of the Oakland Museum Natural Sciences Guild presented our cause to their organization and thereby encouraged participation among those folks.

### PRIZES

These are some of the prizes participants in our wetland benefit drawing will win:

- Queen size Wetlands Quilt
- Birding with Rich Stallcup
- One night at the Highlands Inn
- Gourmet outing on the Bay with Captain Pruett

- Dinner at the Corona Bar & Grill
- Sea Kayak lesson with Sea Trek
- Case of Kendall-Jackson wine
- Smith & Hawken spade and pitchfork
- Tracks in the Sky by Tupper Ansel—Blake and Peter Steinhart
- A gift of storytelling by Carol Nyhoff
- Ironwood sculpture of a soaring eagle from Mexico
- REI merchandise gift certificate
- Watercolor painting of ducks by Meredith Standiford
- Five albums of endangered species stamps produced for World Wildlife Fund

### MORE PRIZES

AND lastly, we have more prizes to add to the whopping list. Dolphin Charters (associated with Biological Journeys) has donated two spaces on one of their all day Suisun Marsh trips in the fall/winter of 1989. Thank you, Ronn Storro-Patterson! Also, Phyllis Kincaid, a longtime member and friend of GGAS, has donated one of her handsome hand-applied designer sweat-shirts to the drawing.

### BENEFIT DRAWING DATE

FINALLY the Benefit Drawing will take place THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 1989 at 7:30 p.m. at the Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda in Berkeley. It will be a part of our April general meeting, featuring George Peyton's slides of his 1988 trip to Rawanda and Madagascar. Obviously, a festive occasion not to be missed.

### WILD & SCENIC

A consulting firm under contract to the California Resources Agency has recommended State Wild and Scenic status for portions of the McCloud, East Carson and West Walker Rivers. The recommendation is the result of a two year study mandated by the State

*(continued on page 44)*

**WETLAND BENEFIT DRAWING — \$2 EACH**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**WETLAND BENEFIT DRAWING — \$2 EACH**

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**WETLAND BENEFIT DRAWING — \$2 EACH**

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## WILD & SCENIC (continued)

Legislature. Resources Secretary Gordon Van Vleck has until January 1, 1989 to review the Wild and Scenic studies prepared by the consultant and make his recommendation to the Legislature.

The reports recommended designation of 33 miles of the McCloud River out of the 43 miles studied. A 10 mile stretch of the East Carson was recommended as were 33 miles of the West Walker. In addition, a 10 mile stretch of Squaw Valley Creek, a major tributary to the McCloud, and a 1 mile stretch of Leavitt Creek, a West Walker tributary, were recommended for Wild and Scenic status.

All three rivers were found to have "extraordinary" water resource, fishery, scenic and recreational values deserving of protection in the Wild and Scenic Rivers system. The McCloud River is one of the premier trophy trout streams in California. The East Carson offers a unique high desert white water experience and excellent trout fishing as well. The West Walker provides a wide variety of wilderness and highway-accessible recreational opportunities.

Water development interests in Nevada are expected to fight designation of the East Carson. They hope to build a large dam and reservoir on the river to supply water for speculative urban development in the Carson Valley. Private landowners who operate exclusive fishing clubs on the McCloud may also oppose Wild and Scenic status. The landowners are concerned about public access to private land. It will require strong public pressure to overcome this opposition.

A positive recommendation of the Legislature from the Resources Secretary is important to insure that these rivers are swiftly protected

through the legislative process in Sacramento. Legislation to protect the McCloud, East Carson and West Walker Rivers is expected to be a major campaign in 1989.

—Friends of the River *Cross Currents*

**ACTION:** Write to your Assemblyman and State Senator (State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814) and support State Wild and Scenic status for the McCloud, East Carson and West Walker Rivers.

## LETTER

Dear Editor

I was pleased to see an article in *The GULL* about the proposed widening of I-80 along the Crescent.

However, asking members to write that the widening needs to occur on the east side of the freeway rather than the west side seemed too timid a demand. I would have hoped you to encourage Audubon members to ask for the money to be spent on mass transportation which over time would impact the natural environment the least. A widened I-80 even on the east side will continue to exasperate our air quality and water quality problems. It will degrade the environment for birds and for ourselves.

Please—ask the membership to write letters supporting mass transportation as an alternative to widening I-80.

Thank you

KIRSTEN BARRERE

SO-membership, please write. Ed.

## MONTEREY PELAGIC TRIP

Roger Marlowe, Steve Bailey and Kurt Campbell will lead a **May 13, 1989** pelagic trip to the Monterey canyon waters. Often alive with seabirds



and mammals, this area is worth a visit.

Reservations are with full payment, refunds only with 30-day notice, or if another is found to take your place. The price is \$35 per person. Meet at Sam's Sportfishing at the end of Fisherman's Wharf at 7:30 a.m. The trip will run from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. For information write Roger Marlowe at 401 Vine Ave., Sebastapol, CA 95472, or phone (707) 829-0705.

## ANNUAL CAMPUS WALK

Again, the annual San Francisco State University Campus birdwalk has been announced. Its third occurrence will be **Sunday, April 9, at 8 a.m.** There is much to see and hear on the campus. There are nesting Cliff Swallows (and a controversy about whether they should be tolerated). Join Arts Professor Dennis Beall for a morning walk. Meet at the entrance of Parking Lot 7 at Tapia Drive off Font Blvd. Call Harriet Talan (338-2132) for further information.

## OFFICE UPS AND DOWNS

The process of relocation has been slow and we hope not too many of our members have been inconvenienced. As we adapt to our surroundings, needs arise and for this we try to solicit members for advice.

Our long suffering Savin 770 copier has finally died. It sits now collecting dust and taking valuable space. Any ideas for an environmentally sensitive method of disposal?

Further, we need some functional storage solutions, such as a steel cabinet with doors or under counter cabinets to hide the clutter and provide work surfaces.

Please call us with your information and ideas, 843-2222.

## VOLUNTEER HABITAT TEAM

The Golden Gate National Park Association calls our attention to its sponsorship of an effort to restore habitat in the GGNRA. Typical work includes removing exotic weeds, controlling erosion, restoring native vegetation, working in a greenhouse, or fixing trails. There is a lot of important work to be done. Volunteers are the key to making it happen.

If you could enjoy enthusiastic company, exercise in beautiful surroundings, and the satisfaction of seeing positive changes made in the park, perhaps this is for you. Call 556-4353, the Habitat Hotline.

## BERKELEY BAY FESTIVAL

The 8th annual Berkeley Bay Festival will take place at the Berkeley Marina's Shorebird Park on Saturday April 22 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. There is a new Nature Center to visit and over fifty exhibitors will participate. The theme this year is *The State of the Bay*. The emphasis is on what individuals can do to preserve and protect the environment. The event is sponsored by the City of Berkeley Marina Recreation Programs (644-8623).

GGAS will be represented. Volunteers to help at our table are needed. Phone 843-2222 for information.

## RICHARDSON BAY CENTER

*THE BOOK NEST* at Audubon Richardson Bay Refuge has just published its 1989 mailorder catalog of field and site guides for birders, video and audio cassettes for birding, and environmental education books. It is free. If you want a copy please send \$.25 in postage to them at 376 Greenwood Beach Rd., Tiburon, CA 94920.

## NEWS FROM THE RANCH

The Ranch opens its public season on Saturday, March 18. Located 3 miles north of Stinson Beach on Hwy. 1, Audubon Canyon Ranch is the sanctuary sponsored by your Audubon Chapter. Take advantage of this wonderful resource and spend a day or several at our sanctuary. Hike the trails, view the heronry, sit by the creek, picnic in the ranch yard, or bird watch from the blind. Perhaps the best way to enjoy it is to make several visits during our public season.

Come out during when the Great Blue Herons are about a month into their nesting cycle. The Great Egrets will still be courting, defending territories, building nests and laying eggs. Spring wildflowers will be in bloom and the trails will be uncrowded. Search the old growth forests for the elusive Spotted Owl during March and early April. Perhaps this is the year you will dare to pickup a newt or even a banana slug.

By late April or early May it may be time for a second visit. The herons will have young in the nests. Egret should be abundant, and the first young egrets should be hatching. Courtship behavior may still be observed in both species. A few wildflowers may still adorn our trails, and territorial birds will sing from the forests and chaparral. Plan your trip for a low morning tide. Get to the Ranch around 10 a.m., hike one of the 3 mile loop trails and witness the beauty of Bolinas Lagoon when its shallows are gleaming black, ribboned by silver streams. If you are really lucky, the fog will be in when you emerge from the forest, and it will break as you walk down the open slope. The sight before you is mystical in its beauty.

June and July spell the end of the breeding cycle. Now the nestlings are ready to fly, and if you are patient and

lucky you may see one of the great birds take its first flight. Like the cartoon characters Launchpad or Loon, you never quite know how or when they may land. It is amazing to think these lanky, unhinged birds will be the graceful hunters and fliers of our marshes by fall. The hills will be dry, but the beauty of transition is obvious. If you have taken the time to see the season progress from its beginning to end your year will be richer and you'll be anxious to experience the Ranch next year.

Our public season will close on Sunday, July 16.

Join us at your sanctuary, Audubon Canyon Ranch.

—DAN MURPHY

## HELEN CHANDLER BRENNER

Longtime member and sometime Treasurer of GGAS, community activist, conservationist and 61 year resident of Berkeley, Helen Brenner died in October. She was born in Newton, Mass., educated at Vassar, and at Simmons; she had a long career as a librarian. During WWII she worked in the Manhattan District Project in personnel and received a Manhattan District Special Award for her contribution. She retired in 1967 from the Library of the University of California.

## COOPER SOCIETY

The Cooper Ornithological Society meeting for March will be on Monday, March 20 at 8 p.m. at Mills College, Life Science Building, Room 37. The speaker has not yet been announced.



## GIFTS and BEQUESTS

### FOR GGAS

#### In Memory of

Judge Norman A. Greg

Ralph Hilton

Diane Meckfessel

Erin & Neill Johnson,  
my parents

#### Gift of

Dr. & Mrs. Paul N. Chiles

Paul & Marion Covel  
Clark & Roxie Gleason  
Phyllis Gleason  
Gertrude Bialos  
Elsie Roemer

Lynn Groh

Dee Pruyn

### FOR AUDUBON CANYON RANCH

#### In Memory of

Ralph Hilton

Margaret E. Burns

### FOR GGAS

#### In Honor of

Larry Minney

S.F. Caston

### FOR WETLANDS

Cora Pitcock

The Society welcomes gifts in general or gifts in honor of or in memory of relatives and friends. Such gifts will be used as specified by the donor or, if unspecified, at the discretion of the GGAS Board of Directors. This includes their use for general GGAS activities or for special programs of the Society including Audubon Canyon Ranch of which GGAS is a sponsor. Please send your gift in the form of a check made out to Golden Gate Audubon Society, 1250 Addison St., #107B, Berkeley, CA 94702. All gifts are tax deductible. The Society is also appreciative of any bequests. Such bequests should specify as recipient the Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc. All gifts, donations and bequests will be acknowledged in *The Gull* as well as personally on behalf of the Society by the Secretary.

**One Good Thing about April 15th:  
LINE 45 on your State Tax Form.**



Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc.  
Office: 843-2222  
1250 Addison Street, #107B  
Berkeley, California 94702

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THE GULL

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First Vice President, Bruce Walker (654-9649)\* — 89  
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Janice Andersen (922-5866)\* — 89  
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Leora Feeney (522-8525)\* — 91  
David Rice (527-7210)\* — 90  
At Large: Steven Margolin (434-4262 x6005)\* — 90  
Arthur Feinstein (282-5937)\* — 89

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Education, David Rice (527-7210)\*  
Field Trips, Russ Wilson (524-2399)\*  
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Hospitality,  
Membership, Leora Feeney (522-8525)\*  
Program, Joelle Buffa (731-2996)  
Publicity,  
GULL Editor, Don Sanford (527-6017)\*  
Observations: Helen Green (526-5943)  
Rare Bird Alert 528-0288  
Rare Bird Alert (update) 524-5592  
Extended Field Trips Co-ordinator,  
Chris Carpenter (376-6802)  
Librarian, Minnie Groshong (843-2222)  
Office Manager, Barbara Rivenes (843-2222)  
\*Members of the Board of Directors

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AUDUBON CANYON RANCH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tom White, ex officio  
Nicki Spillane

Dan Murphy  
Bruce Howard

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA RARE BIRD ALERT (recorded) (415) 528-0288  
Update: 524-5592

Mail for all individuals listed above should be sent to GGAS office.

Send address changes to office promptly; Post office does not forward *THE GULL*. Monthly meetings: second Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Joint membership — local and national \$30 per year (individual); \$38 (family); includes *AUDUBON* Magazine and *THE GULL*; to join, make checks payable to National Audubon Society and send to GGAS office to avoid delay in receiving *THE GULL*. Membership renewals should be sent directly to the National Audubon office. Subscriptions to *THE GULL* separately \$8 per year; single issues \$1. High school and college student membership \$18 per year. Senior citizen individual \$21, senior citizen family \$23. Associate Membership in Golden Gate Audubon Society, \$10 per year.

The Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc. was established January 25, 1917,  
and became a chapter of National Audubon in 1948.

The *Gull* deadline is the first of the month for the following month, and July 15th for September issue.